

## Jody Sanderson – Conservative Candidate for Malpeque

### **1 - Intro: Tell us a bit about yourself and why you want to represent Malpeque in Ottawa as Member of Parliament? (max. 100 words)**

I grew up and worked on my family's farm (Fulton Sanderson and Sons) until I completed my business degree at UNB. I then went to work as a banker in various locations around the world. My wife Larissa and I decided to return home to Prince Edward Island so that our two children can have many of the same experiences as I had growing up. I am running because I want to make sure my children have the same opportunities that I had but without being forced to leave the Island to make their hopes a reality.

### **2 - Workforce: We hear from our members frequently about the pressure of labour and skills shortages across a wide range of sectors. It is especially concerning because we see higher rates of unemployment than we did before the pandemic, yet there are still hundreds of jobs being left unfilled. What is your plan to deal with these shortages, and how might you and your party achieve this?**

Part of the challenge of COVID-19 is that many businesses have shut down temporarily and their workers have moved on to other jobs. It is important to support business efforts to recruit employees. That is why a Conservative government will implement a Job Surge Plan to pay up to 50% of the salary of net new hires for six months following the end of the CEWS. We will double the Apprenticeship Job Creation Tax Credit for the next three years and invest \$250 million over two years to create the Canada Job Training Fund to employers who provide training to workers needing to upgrade their skills to qualify for jobs.

### **3 - Small Business Support: Small businesses have been through a stressful and tiring past eighteen months. While there have certainly been business support programs to help, businesses will feel the impacts long after the pandemic is gone. What will you and your party do to support our small businesses and economic recovery after COVID-19?**

In addition to providing businesses assistance to bring employees back to work, a Conservative government will provide a 5% investment tax credit for any capital investment made in 2022 and 2023 with the first \$25,000 refundable for small businesses.

We will also allow businesses with less than \$60,000 to use simple case accounting. Knowing that businesses returning to full capacity need capital before they generate revenue a Conservative government will launch the Main Street Business Load for small and medium businesses. This will be on the same terms as the Canada Emergency Business Account except it will be up to \$200,000 rather than \$60,000 and up to 25% of the loan may be forgiven depending upon a company's revenue loss.

Finally, we will provide a 25% tax credit on amounts of up to \$100,000 that Canadians personally invest in a small business over the next two years. We will also protect the changes made by Bill C-208 that allow for inter-family transfer of businesses to occur on the same terms as arms-length sales.

**4 - Affordability: A major issue throughout this election has been overall affordability for Canadians. Due to the rising inflation, the rise in housing and rent costs, and the rise in the cost of everyday life, people are finding it harder and harder to get ahead. We see it in our businesses and our communities every day. When Islanders have to devote more of their hard-earned income to necessities like food and housing, it means less disposable income for them to spend within our business community. What will you and your party do to make life more affordable for everyday Canadians?**

Statistics Canada reported that in July the annual inflation rate surged to 3.7%. The biggest increase since May 2011. This reflects the reality that we all see at the grocery store every day. A Conservative government will promote lower prices through increased competition by:

- Allowing foreign telecommunications companies to provide services to Canadians provide that the same treatment is reciprocated in that company's country.
- Increasing the maximum fine for price-fixing to \$100 million and bring in criminal penalties for executives of companies that price-fix.
- Bringing in legislation on open banking so that fintech companies can compete directly with banks on mortgages, lines of credit and credit cards.
- Ordering the Competition Bureau to investigate bank fees.
- Banning foreign investors not living in or moving to Canada from buying homes here for a two year period. A measure the Liberal government defeated in the last Parliament.

**5 - Pandemic Debt: COVID-19 has required our federal government to make immediate and necessary investments during the pandemic to ensure Canadians, families, and businesses were taken care of. While much of this was necessary during the initial months of the pandemic, many of our members have expressed concern for the extensions of some programs and, more importantly, how the government plans to pay back the massive debt accumulated during the pandemic and beyond. In fact, this was a key component of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce's election platform, *What It Takes to Grow*. What will you and your party do to deal with the pandemic debt?**

The programs that got us through the pandemic should not become permanent. That is why many of the initiatives proposed in Canada's Recovery Plan are time limited. A crisis is not an excuse for a permanent expansion of government programming. A Conservative government will control spending, the last balanced budget was delivered by a Conservative government, while protecting transfer payments to provinces and increasing the health transfer to provinces by 6% per annum, generating \$250 million in new money for health care in Prince Edward Island over the next ten years.